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[South Vietnam: Communist shelling attacks continued at a high level over the weekend, and heavy ground battles were fought near the Cambodian border northwest of Saigon.

The heaviest fighting was in Tay Ninh Province where a regiment of the Communist 9th Division lost more than 300 troops killed in an abortive attempt to overrun a US artillery base. Enemy units probed the northern and southern outskirts of Tay Ninh city, touching off battles that nearly demolished one hamlet and caused dozens of civilian casualties. Nearby in Binh Long Province a series of engagements involving the North Vietnamese 1st and 7th divisions has resulted in several hundred enemy dead in three days of fighting. Communist forces in Binh Long are apparently trying to get into position to attack the provincial capital, An Loc.

In the I and II corps regions, enemy-initiated attacks continued to lag behind the rest of the country but a number of sharp ground fights were reported south of Da Nang near An Hoa, and near Dak To in Kontum Province. Terrorism stepped up sharply in Da Nang city, and a provincial capital in southern I Corps was probed by a small enemy force. Military activity in the Mekong Delta returned to a moderate level over the weekend, following the widespread flare-up early on 6 June.

The enemy's June "action phase" so far is less intense than the upsurge of Communist attacks in mid-May, but it has followed a similar pattern. There were nearly 250 shellings and ground attacks during the first two days of the current phase, 6-7 June, compared to more than 400 enemy attacks on 12-13 May. The Communists this time appear to have placed more emphasis on striking South Vietnamese military units. Casualty figures for the first two days of the current flare-up show that some 200 South Vietnamese]

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[and 100 US troops were killed. Enemy losses for the period total more than 2,000 dead.

There are fresh signs of impending enemy attacks in a number of areas. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] reports that enemy forces are meeting to consider committing more troops in the Tay Ninh city area and also against Saigon. Two prisoners taken in the recent fighting near An Loc say that the North Vietnamese 7th Division will attack that provincial capital before 10 June.

Strong North Vietnamese units are holding positions near both Tay Ninh city and An Loc. No significant troop movements toward Saigon have been noted, however, so any action against the capital in the immediate future will probably consist of shelling and sapper action. [REDACTED] (Map)]

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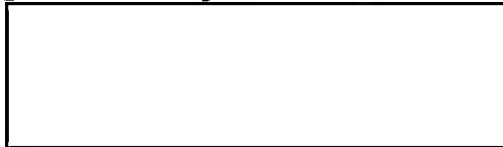
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International Communism: Moscow's decision to bring the China issue to the floor has increased chances that the World Communist Conference will end in a display of disunity.

In his major speech to the conference, Brezhnev bitterly attacked Peking's domestic and foreign behavior. He accused the Chinese leaders of preparing their people for war against the Soviet Union, of supporting splinter groups in foreign Communist parties, and of thwarting "anti-imperialist" unity.

Other parties that follow Moscow's line will undoubtedly endorse Brezhnev's remarks, and the Soviets will have a condemnation of China in the conference record even if it is not in the formal conference documents. By raising the China issue in stark terms in this forum, however, Brezhnev has challenged those parties that had sought to avoid condemnation of China at the conference. Some--particularly the Rumanian and Italian parties--will feel called upon to assert their independence of Moscow, despite Pravda's warning over the weekend against delegations making speeches to curry favor in their home countries.

How far the opposing parties will go in registering their independence is an open question. Some may actually walk out, although they would probably wait until after they have had a chance to speak. They might also withhold their signatures from the conference documents, which reportedly are still not fully agreed upon. Others may take the offensive, as the Australian party delegation did even before Brezhnev's speech when its chief spoke out against the invasion of Czechoslovakia.



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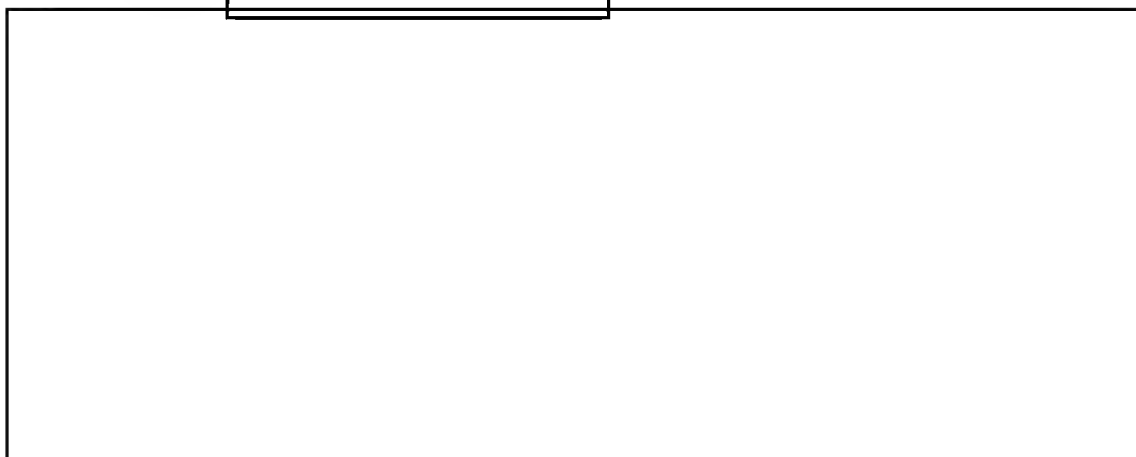
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West Germany - Poland: A forthcoming visit to Poland by West Berlin's Mayor Schuetz will lend support to the continuing efforts of Foreign Minister Brandt to score gains in his Eastern policy during this election year.

Despite criticism from conservatives that the trip to Poznan, Krakow, and Warsaw on 14-16 June would strengthen Communist claims that West Berlin is a completely separate political entity, Brandt warmly supports the visit.

Brandt believes the visit will promote economic and cultural contacts between West Berlin and Poland and will be a useful test of prospects for advancing German-Polish detente as well. Brandt also considers that even small progress toward improved relations with Warsaw will benefit his Social Democratic Party in the Bundestag elections next September.

Other West German officials view Polish Premier Gomulka's speech on 17 May, which proposed a treaty with Bonn recognizing the Oder-Neisse as a final border, as an indication of Poland's willingness to break the ice in its relations with West Germany. These officials believe that a probe by Schuetz of Warsaw's current policy intentions would be useful



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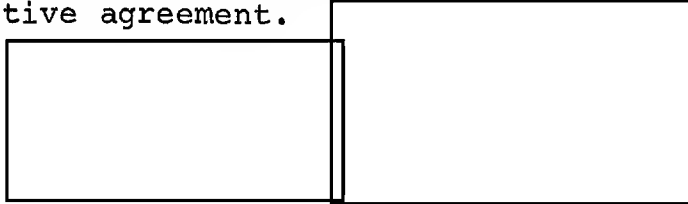
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NOTE

Communist China - USSR: Peking has agreed to send a delegation to meet with Soviet representatives in Khabarovsk on 18 June to discuss navigation on the Sino-Soviet boundary rivers. The Chinese will probably use this forum to raise larger territorial issues. This tactic caused the breakdown of the last such meeting in 1967, and there is little prospect that the new talks will reach substantive agreement.



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